In re LENOSKI ET AL., Application No. 09/519,282
Amendment B

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of clams will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method performed by a packet switch, the packet switch including a plurality of input components, a plurality of output components, one or more interconnection networks, and a broadcast component, the method comprising:

sending a plurality of packets from the plurality of input components to the plurality of output components through said one or more interconnection networks;

recognizing an error within the packet switch;

sending a particular packet to the broadcast component through at least a portion of said one or more interconnection networks in response to said recognizing the error, the particular packet including an indication of the error;

notifying the plurality of input components of the error, said notifying including sending one or more packets indicating the error from the broadcast component through at least a second portion of said one or more interconnection networks.

Claims 2-5 (canceled)

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising each of the plurality of input components updating one or more status data structures in response to receiving a notification of the error.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6, further comprising each of the plurality of input components determining which of a plurality of paths leading to a destination output component over which to send a particular packet, the path determined by referencing the one or more status data structures.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 6, wherein the one or more data structures include an output availability table to indicate whether a possible path through the packet switching system from the input component to a particular destination is available.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling at least one of the plurality of input components from sending packets to a particular destination of the packet switching system when a number of possible paths through the packet switching system leading to a particular destination falls below a predetermined threshold value as identified by one or more received packets containing indications of one or more errors.

Claims 11-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (original): A packet switching system comprising:

a plurality of input components, each of the plurality of input components maintaining a fault data structure;

a plurality of output components; and

a plurality of interconnection networks, each of the plurality of interconnection networks coupled to each of the plurality of input components and to each of the plurality of the output components to provide a plurality of paths between each of the plurality of input components and the plurality of output components;

wherein the fault data structure of at least one of the plurality of input components includes an indication of which interconnection networks the at least one input component may send packets through to reach a particular output component.

Claim 14 (original): The packet switching system of claim 13, further comprising a broadcast mechanism to receive an indication of a problem within the packet switching system and to notify the plurality of input components of the problem.

Claim 15 (original): The packet switching system of claim 14, wherein the broadcast mechanism is located in one of the plurality of interconnection networks.

Claim 16 (original): The packet switching system of claim 14, wherein the broadcast mechanism is located in each of the plurality of interconnection networks.

Claim 17 (original): The packet switching system of claim 13, wherein each of the input components references its associated fault data structure in determining which of the plurality of interconnection network through which to send a particular packet.

Claim 18 (original): The packet switching system of claim 13, wherein the fault data structure includes an output availability indication of which of the plurality of interconnection networks through which its associated input component may send packets.

Claims 19-20 canceled

Claim 21 (previously presented): An apparatus comprising a packet switch, the packet switch including:

a plurality of input components;

a plurality of output components; and

one or more interconnection networks, each of said one or more interconnection networks coupled to each of the plurality of input components and to each of the output components, each of said one or more interconnection networks including a broadcast mechanism configured to receive control packets transported through a portion of said one or more interconnection networks, said control packets each indicating an indication of an error condition, and said broadcast mechanism configured to send a plurality of packets through at least a second portion of said one or more interconnection networks to the plurality of input components.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein said one or more interconnection networks includes at least two interconnection networks.

Claims 23-25 (canceled)